

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Deirdre Kiorgaard, ACOC representative

Subject: Title of person: change to 9.4.1 and 9.19.1.2

Generally ACOC welcomes proposals to harmonise RDA with FRAD and FRBR. However, we have some reservations about the scope and placement of the proposed instruction.

Addition if required to distinguish

ACOC notes that 9.19.1.1 instructs the cataloguer to make the additions specified under 9.19.1.2 regardless of whether they are needed to distinguish the person from another with the same name. ACOC would prefer that terms of address are only added if needed to distinguish. Therefore if they are added to these instructions it should be as part of the 9.19.1.3-9.19.1.7 instructions instead.

Limitation to selected terms of address

ACOC would be happy to expand the instructions to include some, but not all, terms of address. We accept the BL proposal to make provision for the inclusion of 'titles of the person indicative of rank or office' but not any terms of address (Mr., Mrs., etc). We believe this is more consistent with FRAD which does not have a general provision for all terms of address.

Note on related changes required

RDA differs from AACR in that terms of address are only included for people with a religious vocation in RDA. They were allowed to be used more liberally in AACR. This was a conscious decision for RDA. The key reason for omitting terms of address was that RDA gave many other elements that could be used to identify a person. In this context terms of address are no longer required except in two cases where there would otherwise be insufficient information. Thus Terms of address are still included at *9.2.2.9.3 Persons Known by a Surname Only* and *9.2.2.9.4 Married Person Identified Only by a Partner's Name*. If JSC decides to make the changes suggested in 6JSC/BL/1, then appropriate guidelines and links to the instructions at 9.2.2.9.3 and 9.2.2.9.4 need to be made.

Examples

We also have one specific concern relating to the examples. ACOC does not have detailed knowledge of British titles of nobility. In the suggested examples at 9.19.1.2, i.e. the example of "Smith, John, Sir" appears to be an example of a title of nobility and if so, would be covered at 9.4.1.5. If it is correct as given in the proposal some explanatory text to the example may be helpful, e.g. "Sir is a term of address, not the title of nobility for a baronet".